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(54) Title: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR INDUCING AN IMMUNE RESPONSE AGAINST TUMOUR-RELATED ANTIGENS (57) Abstract Disclosed are a novel prostatic acid phosphatase and corresponding coding region derived from mouse. Also disclosed is a method of producing an immune response against an autologous polypeptide tumor antigen by immunizing a subject with a xenogeneic polypeptide antigen, either alone, as part of a viral antigen construct, or as part of a pulsed dendritic cell preparation.		

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COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR INDUCING AN IMMUNE RESPONSE AGAINST TUMOUR-RELATED ANTIGENS

Field of the Invention

5 The invention relates to immunotherapeutic compositions and methods for producing immunity against tumor-related antigens. Such compositions and methods are useful in reducing tumor cell load.

References

10 Ausubel, F.M., *et al.*, CURRENT PROTOCOLS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Media PA (1992).

Mackett, M., *et al.*, *J. Virol.* 49:857-864 (1984).

Sambrook, *et al.*, MOLECULAR CLONING: A LABORATORY MANUAL (Second Edition), Cold Spring Harbor Press, Plainview, N.Y. (1989).

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Tumor antigens are generally proteins or glycoproteins that are present on the surface of tumor cells. In many cases, such antigens are identical to or highly similar to antigens that are present on normal, non-tumor cells in the host organism, allowing the tumor cells to escape the host's immunological surveillance mechanisms.

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Traditional means of reducing tumor load in afflicted individuals have relied on chemical or radiation treatments that target particular attributes of tumor cell growth, such as hormone dependence, rate of growth, and the like. Such treatments have been shown to be effective in combatting certain types of tumors, but relatively or incompletely effective in other cases. Therefore, methods to enhance or augment the ability of an organism to immunologically eradicate some or all circulating tumor cells (tumor load) are needed.

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For example, in the case of prostate tumors, although the five-year survival rates for localized prostate cancer have improved significantly, the prognosis for metastatic forms of the disease has not been improved in recent years. Prostatectomy (simple or radical) and local radiation therapy are effective at early stages of the disease, but are of little or no benefit in the later, metastatic stages of the disease. Moreover, metastatic forms of prostate cancer are generally resistant to conventional anti-neoplastic chemotherapy.

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The only therapy that has shown benefit so far in the disseminated form of the disease is androgen ablation, either by castration or estrogen (diethylstilbestrol) therapy. Prostate tumor cells are typically dependent on testosterone or other androgens as growth factors. However, androgen withdrawal frequently leads to outgrowth of androgen-independent, mutant tumor cells. Thus, since

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all currently available therapies for disseminated prostate cancer are at best palliative and do not prolong survival, improved therapies for eradicating circulating or disseminated prostate tumor cells are needed.

The present invention is concerned with an immunotherapeutic treatment method that takes advantage of the observation that is the discovery of the invention, that is, animals immunized with xenogeneic antigens can be made to mount an immune response against closely related self-antigens, such as the antigens present on tumor cells. Such a therapy has the advantages over conventional therapies that (i) it mobilizes the body's natural mechanisms for ridding itself of the diseased cells, (ii) it can be directed to disseminated forms of the disease, and (iii) it can be used to either augment or replace conventional anti-tumor therapy.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides novel compositions and methods for producing immune responses directed against tumor-related antigens. More specifically, the invention includes a novel tumor-related antigen, mouse prostatic acid phosphatase (mPAP) which can be used as a xenogeneic antigen to induce prostate-directed immunity in other mammalian species. The invention further includes several novel vehicles which can be used to carry out immunization with xenogeneic prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP) that leads to therapeutic immunity directed against other forms of PAP tumor antigen, including human PAP. These vehicles include viruses, such as vaccinia virus, or dendritic cells which express mPAP, human PAP or rat PAP. Further, the present invention includes the discovery that immunization with xenogeneic forms of recombinant PAP protein leads to formation of cross-reactive antibodies which react with the autologous form of PAP.

In a related embodiment, the invention includes the discovery of a novel prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP) polypeptide isolated from mouse, which is xenogeneic with respect to human PAP, and which can therefore be used as an antigen to produce a humoral and/or cellular response against tumor antigens resident in a subject, according to the methods described herein. The isolated PAP polypeptide has at least about 90%, and preferably at least 95% sequence identity to the sequence presented as SEQ ID NO: 2 (mPAP). It is further appreciated that the PAP antigen can be formed with by substituting into the polypeptide sequence identified as SEQ ID NO: 2 amino acids that represent conservative substitutions, according to the teachings presented herein. Preferably, such conservative substitutions will not alter the mPAP sequence by more than about 10%.

The invention also includes polynucleotides that encode the PAP polypeptides described above. In a preferred embodiment, the polynucleotide has the sequence presented as SEQ ID NO: 1. In addition, the invention includes vectors, such as baculoviral vectors, that carry such polynucleotides, along with appropriate regulatory elements effective for expression of the polynucleotide in the host.

As mentioned above, the invention also includes a method of inducing an immune response against a tumor-associated antigen in a mammalian subject by administering to the subject an immunogenic dosage of a composition which includes a xenogeneic form of the tumor-related antigen from a different mammalian species.

5 In one particular embodiment, the tumor associated antigen is human prostatic acid phosphatase, and the administered xenogeneic antigen is a non-human PAP. In a more specific embodiment, the xenogeneic antigen includes mouse PAP, as described above. Such an antigen composition may be produced in any of a number of expression systems known in the art; in a particular described embodiment it is produced in insect cells.

10 In an alternative embodiment, the antigen composition may be a recombinant virus which expresses the xenogeneic antigen. In preferred embodiments, the recombinant virus is vaccinia, adeno, or adeno-like virus, and the xenogeneic antigen is a non-human PAP, such as mouse PAP, as described above. In still another preferred embodiment, the xenogeneic antigen composition includes a dendritic cell pulsed *in vitro* with a xenogeneic antigen, which may be, in a further preferred
15 embodiment, a non-human PAP, such as mouse PAP.

In a related aspect, the invention includes an immunogenic composition for eliciting an immune response against a tumor-related antigen in a mammalian species. The composition includes a recombinant vaccinia virus that expresses a xenogeneic form of a tumor-related antigen. In a preferred embodiment the xenogeneic form of the tumor-related antigen is a non-human PAP, such
20 as the mouse PAP polypeptide forms discussed above.

In still another related aspect, the invention includes an immunogenic composition for eliciting a cellular immune response against a tumor-related antigen in a mammalian species. In this embodiment, the composition includes a dendritic cell that has been pulsed *in vitro* with a xenogeneic form of the tumor-related antigen. In a preferred form, the xenogeneic form of the tumor-related
25 antigen includes a non-human PAP, such as mouse PAP, as discussed above.

These and other objects and features of the invention will become more fully apparent when the following detailed description of the invention is read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

30 Brief Description of the Sequences

SEQ ID NO: 1 is a nucleotide sequence for mouse prostatic acid phosphatase (mPAP);

SEQ ID NO: 2 is a deduced amino acid sequence for mPAP;

SEQ ID NO: 3 is a gene specific primer used for cloning the 5' end of mPAP from mouse prostate (first round);

SEQ ID NO: 4 is a gene specific primer used for cloning the 5' end of mPAP from mouse prostate (second round);

SEQ ID NO: 5 is a gene specific primer used for cloning the 3' end of mPAP from mouse prostate (first round);

5 SEQ ID NO: 6 is a gene specific primer used for cloning the 3' end of mPAP from mouse prostate (second round);

SEQ ID NO: 7 is synthetic anchor primer one (AP1) used in cloning mPAP;

SEQ ID NO: 8 is synthetic anchor primer two (AP2) used in cloning mPAP;

SEQ ID NO: 9 is the forward primer (A31091) of a pair of primers used to amplify mPAP;

10 SEQ ID NO: 10 is the reverse primer (A31093) of a pair of primers used to amplify mPAP;
and

SEQ ID NO: 11 is the signal sequence present in SEQ ID NO: 2.

Detailed Description of the Invention

15 I. **Definitions**

Unless otherwise indicated, all terms used herein have the same meaning as they would to one skilled in the art of the present invention. Practitioners are particularly directed to Sambrook, *et al.* (1989) and Ausubel, *et al.*, for definitions and terms of the art. It is to be understood that this invention is not limited to the particular methodology, protocols, and reagents described, as these may
20 vary.

The term "polynucleotide" as used herein refers to a polymeric molecule having a backbone that supports bases capable of hydrogen bonding to typical polynucleotides, where the polymer backbone presents the bases in a manner to permit such hydrogen bonding in a sequence specific fashion between the polymeric molecule and a typical polynucleotide (*e.g.*, single-stranded DNA).

25 Such bases are typically inosine, adenosine, guanosine, cytosine, uracil and thymidine. Polymeric molecules include double and single stranded RNA and DNA, and backbone modifications thereof, for example, methylphosphonate linkages.

The term "vector" refers to a nucleotide sequence that can assimilate new nucleic acids, and propagate such new sequences in an appropriate host. Vectors include, but are not limited to
30 recombinant plasmids and viruses. The vector (*e.g.*, plasmid or recombinant virus) comprising the nucleic acid of the invention can be in a carrier, for example, a plasmid complexed to protein, a plasmid complexed with lipid-based nucleic acid transduction systems, or other non-viral carrier systems.

The term "polypeptide" as used herein refers to a compound made up of a single chain of amino acid residues linked by peptide bonds. The term "protein" as used herein may be

synonymous with the term "polypeptide" or may refer, in addition, to a complex of two or more polypeptides.

The term "splice variant" refers to a polypeptide that is coded by a common gene but which has a sequence that is altered due to alternative splicing of the mRNA prior to translation. Such
5 splicing may result in a deletion of or addition of one or more amino acids (peptide segments) at any point in the polypeptide.

When referred to in the context of an mRNA transcript, a "splice variant" is an mRNAs produced by alternative splicing of coding regions, *i.e.*, exons, from the common gene.

Amino acid residues are referred to herein by their standard single- or three-letter notations:
10 A, ala, alanine; C, cys, cysteine; D, asp, aspartic acid; E, glu, glutamic acid; F, phe, phenylalanine; G, gly, glycine; H, his, histidine; I, ile, isoleucine; K, lys, lysine; L, leu, leucine; M, met, methionine; N, asn, asparagine; P, pro, proline; Q, gln, glutamine; R, arg, arginine; S, ser, serine; T, thr, threonine; V, val, valine; W, trp, tryptophan; X, hyp, hydroxyproline; Y, tyr, tyrosine.

A "conservative substitution" refers to the substitution of an amino acid in one class by an
15 amino acid in the same class, where a class is defined by common physicochemical amino acid sidechain properties and high substitution frequencies in homologous proteins found in nature (as determined, *e.g.*, by a standard Dayhoff frequency exchange matrix or BLOSUM matrix). Six general classes of amino acid sidechains, categorized as described above, include: Class I (Cys); Class II (Ser, Thr, Pro, Ala, Gly); Class III (Asn, Asp, Gln, Glu); Class IV (His, Arg, Lys); Class V (Ile, Leu,
20 Val, Met); and Class VI (Phe, Tyr, Trp). For example, substitution of an Asp for another class III residue such as Asn, Gln, or Glu, is a conservative substitution.

The term "immunogenic dosage" as used herein refers to a dosage of antigen that, when administered to a suitable vertebrate subject, produces a detectable immune response, such a humoral response (circulating antibodies) or a cellular response (antigen-specific T-lymphocytes). This
25 response may develop in days or weeks, depending on the dosage, the species or strain of animal immunized, and the immunization schedule employed by the researcher. Such variables and their assessment are known in the art; further, methods of extrapolating data from experimental animals, such as mice or rats, to humans is also known in the art.

The term "xenogeneic", as used herein, refers to a polypeptide antigen that is derived from
30 a species other than the reference species, where such foreign species' antigen exhibits substantial identity -- *e.g.*, at least 60-95%, and preferably at least 70-95% sequence identity -- to the reference species' antigen. In this context, the term "substantial identity" refers to concordance of an amino acid sequence with another amino acid sequence or of a polynucleotide sequence with another polynucleotide sequence when such sequences are arranged in a best fit alignment in any of a number
35 of sequence alignment proteins known in the art.

A "xenogeneic form of an antigen" refers to an antigen having substantial sequence identity to a reference antigen, but derived from a different species of animal.

The term "autologous", as used herein, refers to polypeptide antigens derived from the same species as the reference species.

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II. Immunogenic Compositions

A. Tumor-associated Antigens

The rationale for using tumor-associated antigens in cancer therapy is based on the observation that several tumor antigen-specific immune effector mechanisms can be utilized to attack tumors. Both
10 cellular and humoral immune responses may contribute to tumor rejection in a variety of experimental and clinical models. Passively applied antibodies have shown promise in diseases such as B-cell lymphoma. However, this treatment requires identification and cloning of a specific individual's tumor antigen. Further, since tumor antigens are generally autoantigens (*e.g.*, self-antigens to which the individual is tolerant) it has been difficult to achieve an effective or reliable immune response,
15 using immunological approaches. Conventional adjuvants may not be sufficient to break established tolerance towards autoantigens.

By way of example, in prostate cancer, the two best-studied tumor markers are prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP) and prostate-specific antigen (PSA). More recently, a prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSM) has been cloned that was originally identified by the monoclonal antibody 7E11.C5.

20 Currently, the most widely used tumor marker in prostate cancer is prostate-specific antigen (PSA). PSA displays an exquisite specificity and sensitivity for detecting and monitoring prostate cancer. It is a member of the glandular kallikrein family and as such displays substantial sequence homology to other members of this gene family. More specifically, human glandular kallikrein and pancreatic/renal kallikrein share 78% and 57% of their respective amino acid sequence with PSA.

25 An alternative antigen that combines the features of well-established tissue specificity and relative uniqueness of amino acid sequence is prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP). PAP is the prostate-specific isoenzyme of the heterogeneous group of acid phosphatases. Physiologically, it occurs as a homodimer with a molecular weight of approximately 102 kD. PAP is a secreted enzyme of unknown physiological significance. It occurs in concentrations of approximately 1 mg/ml in
30 seminal plasma. Elevated serum levels of PAP caused by PAP-secreting tumor cells is found in 33%, 79%, 71% and 92% of patients with stages A, B, C and D prostatic cancer, respectively. Elevation of prostatic acid phosphatase in patients with stage D prostate cancer was noted to be associated with significantly shortened survival, while decreased levels of serum acid phosphatase correlated with response to therapy. Studies with PAP-specific monoclonal antibodies and RNA probes indicate that
35 the PAP antigen is strictly prostate-specific.

Immunohistochemical studies reveal that PAP is expressed by the normal prostate and > 90% of adenocarcinomas of the prostate, but is not expressed by other tissues. Since PAP is expressed by the healthy prostate, it has been difficult to elicit an immune response to human PAP using human PAP as an antigen.

5 It is the discovery of the present invention that xenogeneic tumor-associated antigens can be used to elicit an immune response to the autologous, tumor-associated antigen. For example, and as exemplified below, prostatic acid phosphatases (PAPs) derived from human and rat share 78% sequence identity; PAPs from human and mouse share 80% sequence identity; and PAPs from rat and mouse share 87% sequence identity. Thus, within the context and definitions of the present invention,
10 mouse PAP is xenogeneic with respect to humans, and vice-versa.

Data presented herein (See Section III, below), show that immunization of a rodent using autologous PAP as immunogen stimulates antibodies (humoral response) that react with self antigen. However, such autologous immunization did not result in a cellular immune response as would be needed to combat tumor cells *in vivo*. In contrast, as shown below, in accordance with the discovery
15 of the present invention, when the xenogeneic antigen was used as antigen, production of both a humoral and a cellular response were elicited.

B. Prostatic Acid Phosphatase Antigen Compositions

The cDNA for human and rat PAP have been isolated. In humans, a 3061 bp-cDNA contains
20 an open reading frame of 1158 bp that codes for a protein 386 amino acids (aa) in length. After cleavage of a 32 aa signal peptide a 41 kD peptide backbone is generated. Three N-glycosylation sites occur on each chain.

The mouse form of PAP has not been previously described. In experiments carried out in support of the present invention, mouse PAP has been cloned and its nucleotide and deduced amino
25 acid sequences identified. Example 1 provides details of the cloning procedures used to isolate the mouse polynucleotide sequence, shown as SEQ ID NO: 1. Using this sequence, the deduced polypeptide sequence was determined (SEQ ID NO: 2).

The N-terminal 31 amino acid portion of the polypeptide sequence shown as SEQ ID NO: 2 represents the predicted signal peptide and is referred to herein as SEQ ID NO: 11. The polypeptide
30 composition of the invention includes the mouse PAP identified herein as SEQ ID NO: 2, including minor, conservative substitutions therein, where such substitutions preserve the biological activity of the protein and do not alter the sequence by more than 10%, or preferably 5%. Conservative substitutions are well known in the art. It is further appreciated that mPAP may retain its identity and utility as a xenogeneic antigen when it has at least 90% and preferably 95% identity to SEQ ID NO:

35 2.

Six general classes of amino acid sidechains, categorized as described above, include: Class I (Cys); Class II (Ser, Thr, Pro, Ala, Gly); Class III (Asn, Asp, Gln, Glu); Class IV (His, Arg, Lys); Class V (Ile, Leu, Val, Met); and Class VI (Phe, Tyr, Trp). A substitution of one member of a single class for another member of the same class represents a conservative substitution, in accordance with the present invention. For example, substitution of an Asp for another class III residue such as Asn, Gln, or Glu, is a conservative substitution.

As mentioned above and described in further detail below, it has been found that the mouse PAP antigen is effective to serve as an immunogen capable of eliciting a cellular immune response against human PAP. Accordingly, it is appreciated that this novel polypeptide has utility as an anti-tumor immunogen. The polynucleotide coding sequence and vectors containing this sequence therefore have utility in the manufacture of the polypeptide immunogen by recombinant means. Such polynucleotides and vectors can be constructed according to methods well known in the art (Ausubel, *et al.*, 1992). In the context of the present invention, the mouse PAP coding sequence includes SEQ ID NO: 1 and any minor modifications thereof, including but not limited to equivalent codons and codon modifications made to conform with codon preferences of a particular expression vector and/or organism. As discussed above, the invention also includes its expression product, SEQ ID NO: 2, as well as splice variants thereof.

Selection of particular vectors for use with specific cell types will be within the skill of persons skilled in the art of recombinant protein expression.

For example, insect cells and the lytic baculovirus *Autographa californica* nuclear polyhidrosis virus (AcNPV) can be used as an expression system for production of the polypeptide compositions of the invention. This system is particularly desirable, because it is capable of providing a glycosylated product. Production of mouse and rat PAP in insect cells is detailed in Example 1. Other suitable expressions systems, including appropriate promoters and expression vectors, will be known to those skilled in the art, and include, but are not limited to adeno virus, adeno-like virus and the like.

III. Compositions and Methods for Inducing an Immune Response

It is the discovery of the present invention that a xenogeneic antigen can be used to induce an immune response against a closely related autologous tumor antigen. Methods and dosages for producing humoral and/or cellular responses are exemplified in the methods illustrated in the sections that follow, including the referenced examples. In general, the practitioner will appreciate that an immunogenic dosage can be determined empirically and/or extrapolated from appropriate experimental species. Empirical determinations are made by administering small initial doses (the equivalent of an approximately 200-500 μ g dose of xenogeneic antigen composition in rat, or about 10^7 cells producing

recombinant peptide, as described below) according to methods known in the art and measuring for a detectable immune response, such a humoral response (circulating antibodies) or a cellular response (antigen-specific T-lymphocytes), according to methods well known in the art or exemplified below. Such a response may develop in days or weeks, depending on the dosage, the species or strain of animal immunized, and the immunization schedule employed by the researcher. Such variables and their assessment are known in the art; further, methods of extrapolating data from experimental animals, such as mice or rats, to humans is also known in the art.

A. Xenogeneic Antigen Immunogens

Xenogeneic antigens of the present invention can be used to induce humoral and/or cellular responses, according to the methods described below. Example 3 provides details of methods used to induce a xenogeneic humoral response in rats. TABLE 1 shows humoral responses of rats immunized with human PAP, which is xenogeneic with respect to rat. As shown, antibodies that recognized both the foreign, xenogeneic antigen (human PAP) and the autologous polypeptide (rat PAP) were detected. As a control, rats immunized with a control polypeptide (ovalbumin) did not produce antibodies that reacted with either the immunizing antigen or the autologous PAP.

Table 1

Immunization (Strain/Immunogen)	Test Antigen		
	Ovalbumin	rat PAP	human PAP
COP rats/human PAP	0	+	+
COP rats/ovalbumin	+	0	0
WISTAR rats/human PAP	0	+	+
WISTAR rats/ovalbumin	+	0	0

Similarly, as shown in TABLE 2, when mice were immunized with either rat, human or mouse PAP, in each case, antibodies were detected that reacted with all three of the antigens. This further shows that immunization with xenogeneic antigen elicits a response against the reference, self-antigen, in this case, mouse PAP.

Table 1

Immunization (Strain/Immunogen)	Test Antigen			
	Ovalbumin	rat PAP	mouse PAP	human PAP
C57/bl6 mice/human PAP	0	+	+	+
C57/bl6 mice/rat PAP	0	+	+	+
C57/bl6 mice/mouse PAP	0	+	+	+
C57/bl6 mice/ovalbumin	+	0	0	0

These data show that the rodent forms of PAP are capable of inducing an anti-human PAP immune response. thus, they are suitable for inducing prostate-cancer directed immunity in patients who suffer from PAP-positive tumors.

B. Vaccinia Virus PAP Immunogens

Example 3 provides details of experiments carried out in support of the present invention in which xenogeneic PAP was tested for its ability to also induce cellular immunity that cross-reacts with autologous PAP. Recombinant vaccinia viruses were constructed to express rat PAP or human PAP. These viruses were then used to immunize rats, *i.e.*, a xenogeneic immunization. Cellular immunity towards autologous PAP was measured by detecting infiltration by immune cells of PAP-expressing organs, producing, for example, the response known as "autoimmune prostatitis." RatPAP and humanPAP as described in Example 2 were processed to produce recombinant vaccinia viruses essentially as described by Mackett, *et al.* (1984) which reference is incorporated herein by reference. Autoimmune damage (prostatitis) caused by these immunizations was detected after routine histopathology examination of prostates. Histopathological findings in vaccinia-immunized rats are summarized in TABLE 3, where "0" indicates no change, "(+)" indicates a mild response, and "+++" indicates a robust cellular response.

Table 3

Immunogen	Autoimmune Damage to the Prostate ¹
0	0
wild-type vaccinia virus	(+)
vaccinia virus-ratPAP	(+)
vaccinia virus-humanPAP	+++

¹(Scale: 0-4)

As demonstrated by these experiments, the vaccinia virus-human PAP construct (*e.g.*, a xenogeneic antigen construct) was particularly effective in eliciting a cellular immune response against rat PAP *in vivo*. Surprisingly, it was more effective in raising such a response than was the corresponding ratPAP-vaccinia virus construct. From these experiments it is anticipated that a rodent protein, such as rat PAP or mouse PAP will be effective as an immunogen that is capable of stimulating a cellular immune response against autologous (human PAP) tumor antigen. The implications of this type of response in the context of anti-tumor therapy are appreciated by the present invention. It is further appreciated that such response can be produced by any of a number of appropriate viral expression systems, including, but not limited to, vaccinia, adeno and adeno-like viruses.

C. Pulsed Dendritic Cells

In a related aspect, the invention includes immunogenic compositions comprising dendritic cells pulsed *in vitro* with a xenogeneic tumor antigen, as discussed above.

In practice, dendritic cells are isolated from an individual, using known methods, one of which is described in Example 5, herein. The dendritic cells are mixed with a xenogeneic antigen of interest, such as mouse PAP or ratPAP, using standard methods, such as the general methods described in Example 6. The cell preparation may then be depleted of CD4⁺ T-cells by solid phase immunoadsorption and further fractionated to enrich for cells having cytolytic activity. Doses of about 10⁶ to 10⁹, and preferably, about 10⁷ cells are then administered to the subject by intravenous or central injection according to established procedures (*e.g.*, infusion over 30 to 60 minutes). The responsiveness of the subject to this treatment is measured by monitoring the induction of a cytolytic T-cell response, a helper T-cell response and antibody response towards the tumor-related antigen of interest in peripheral blood mononuclear cells by methods well known in the art. Alternatively, autoimmune damage can be measured as described for PAP in part B, above.

In addition to the direct *in vivo* administration regimen described above, the xenogeneic antigen-pulsed dendritic cells can be used, for example, in *ex vivo* somatic therapy, *in vivo* implantable devices and *ex vivo* extracorporeal devices. They can also be employed in the screening of antigenicity and immunogenicity of peptide epitopes from tumor- and virus-specific antigens.

The following examples illustrate, but in no way are intended to limit the present invention.

EXAMPLES

Example 1Molecular Cloning of Mouse PAP

Mouse prostatic acid phosphatase (mPAP) was cloned in the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using primers derived from the known ratPAP sequence and synthetic anchor primers that were attached to the 5' and 3' ends of the cDNA respectively. Rat sequences that could cross-prime the unknown mouse sequence were determined experimentally by evaluating multiple primers empirically.

mPAP was cloned from mouse prostate organ as follows: Poly A+ RNA was prepared from whole mouse prostates. cDNA was synthesized using the Marathon RACE System (Clontech, Palo Alto, CA) and the 3' RACE System (Gibco BRL; Gaithersburg, MD) according to instructions provided by the manufacturer. The 5' end of the cDNA was cloned as a 5' RACE product from mouse prostate Marathon cDNA by subjecting it to 2 rounds of PCR using the following primers in each round:

1st Round: synthetic anchor primer 1 (AP1) and gene-specific primer

5-CATTCCGGTAGTACATCTCCAC-3 (SEQ ID NO: 3)

2nd Round: AP1 and gene specific primer

5-GTCACAAACTTCAACTCCTTGG-3 (SEQ ID NO: 4)

The 3' end of the cDNA was cloned as a 3' RACE product from mouse prostate Marathon cDNA by subjecting it to 2 rounds of PCR using the following primers in each round:

1st Round: synthetic anchor primer 1 (AP1) and gene-specific primer

5-GATGTACTACCGGAATGAGAC-3 (SEQ ID NO: 5)

2nd Round: synthetic anchor primer 2 (AP2) and gene-specific primer

5-NGTGATCCCNARGACTGG-3 (SEQ ID NO: 6)

AP1 : 5-CCATCCTAATACGACTCAACTATAGGGC-3 (SEQ ID NO: 7)

AP2 : 5-ACTCACTATAGGGCTCGAGCGGC-3 (SEQ ID NO: 8)

In the foregoing sequences, R is A or G, and N is A,G,C or T/U.

Specific RACE products were subcloned and DNA sequence was obtained by DNA sequencing with a Fluorescence-based automated sequencer (ABI 373A, Perkin-Elmer/Applied Biosystems). PCR primers were designed according to this partial sequence information to amplify the full-length mouse Pap cDNA using standard PCR conditions.

The following primer pair was used:

A31091 (f) : 5-AAGTGCAGCACCTCCTAAGG-3 (SEQ ID NO:9)

A31093 (r) : 5-GCACTTCTGCTGAGCTCC-3 (SEQ ID NO: 10)

The cDNA obtained in this way was subcloned and both strands were sequenced using standard methods on the ABI 373A sequencer. The cDNA included a 1158 base pair open reading frame (SEQ ID NO: 1) which codes for a 385 amino acid polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 2), including a signal peptide as the first 31 residues (SEQ ID NO: 11).

5

Example 2

Expression of mPAP and ratPAP in Insect Cells

The cDNA encoding mPAP, rat PAP and human were cloned into the pBacPAK8 baculovirus recombination vector (Clontech). rPAP cDNA was amplified from first strand cDNA made from
10 mRNA isolated from rat prostate (Harlan) using primers which delineate the fragment containing nucleotides 15-1177 (Genbank Acc. M32397) and add an exogenous Xho I restriction site at the 5'-end and exogenous BamHI and Bln I sites at the 3'-end to facilitate insertion into the pBacPAK8 vector. mPAP was obtained as described in example 1. Both cDNAs were modified by inclusion of a synthetic polynucleotide sequence at the 3' end which codes for six histidine residues (HIS6). This tag was used
15 for purification of recombinant PAPs with metal-chelate affinity chromatography. The cDNA encoding human PAP was amplified by PCR from first strand cDNA made from mRNA isolated from the human prostate carcinoma cell line LNCaP (ATCC CRL 1740) using primers which delineate the fragment containing nucleotides 1-1175 (Genbank Acc. M34840) and add an exogenous Xho I restriction site at the 5'-end and exogenous BamHI and Xba I sites at the 3'-end to facilitate insertion
20 into the pBacPAK8 BV recombination vector (Clontech). This Xba I site is engineered to provide an in-frame stop codon for human PAP.

Recombinant baculovirus.

The PAP plasmids were each mixed with linearized BV viral genome plasmid and the mixtures were each transfected into Sf21 cells using Lipofectin as supplied in a recombinant BV
25 transfection kit (Clontech). Six days after transfection, the culture supernatants were collected and titrated on Sf21 monolayers under agarose to form viral plaques. Four days later the cells were stained with neutral red and candidate viral plaques were picked and expanded on Sf21 cells to screen for recombinant BV using PAP enzymatic activity as a readout. PAP⁺ BV clones were chosen and expanded in Sf21 large-scale suspension cultures for viral stocks and subsequently for protein
30 production using protein-free Sf900 II media (Gibco/BRL).

All recombinant proteins exhibited PAP enzymatic activity as shown by hydrolysis of PNPP in a standard acid phosphatase assay. They were purified to > 80% purity by affinity chromatography on nickel-charged columns (Qiagen) according to instructions which were provided by the manufacturer.

35

Example 3

Immunization with Xenogeneic Antigen

Purified recombinant mPAP and rPAP were used to immunize rats (COP and WISTAR inbred strains) or mice (C57/bl6). Rats were immunized with 200 μ g protein in complete Freund's adjuvant subcutaneously. They received booster immunizations on days 14 and 28. Antibody responses were measured on day 42. Mice were immunized in a similar fashion except that 500 μ g or 100 μ g of recombinant protein were used in each immunization. Control groups of animals were immunized with ovalbumin in doses and adjuvant equivalent to the PAP immunizations.

Antibody titers of immune animals were determined with standard solid phase ELISA assays which were performed by coating purified PAP onto ELISA plates. Plates were then reacted with test sera. Bound antibodies were detected with horseradish-peroxidase (HRP)- coupled Goat-anti rat(or anti-mouse) antibodies respectively.

Example 4

Vaccinia Viral Construct PAP Antigens

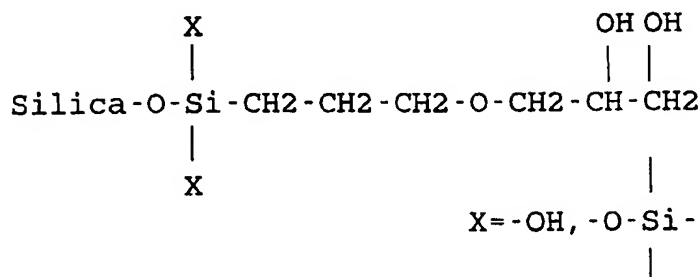
Xenogeneic immunity was compared to cellular immunity that cross-reacts with autologous PAP. Therefore, we constructed recombinant vaccinia viruses that express rat PAP or human PAP. These viruses were used to immunize rats. cellular immunity towards autologous PAP can be measured by detecting infiltration by immune cells of PAP-expressing organs, *i.e.*, autoimmune prostatitis. RatPAP and humanPAP as described in example 3 were processed to produce recombinant vaccinia viruses essentially as described by Mackett, *et al.* (1984). The recombinant viruses were grown in COS-7 cells (ATCC) and were used to immunize male COP rats. Autoimmune damage caused by these immunizations was detected after routine histopathology examination of prostates. Histopathological findings in vaccinia-immunized rats are summarized in Table 3.

Example 5

Preparation of Dendritic Cells

Buffy coats prepared from one unit of blood from HLA-A0201 positive volunteer healthy donors are obtained from the Stanford University Blood Center (Stanford, CA). Cells are harvested from the leukopacs, diluted to 60 mL using Ca⁺⁺/Mg⁺⁺ free phosphate buffered saline (D-PBS; Gibco Laboratories, Grand Island, NY) and layered over two 15 mL columns of organosilanized colloidal silica (OCS) separation medium (prepared as described by Dorn in U.S. Patent 4,927,749, incorporated herein by reference, at a density 1.0720 gr/ml, pH 7.4, 280 mOsm/kg H₂O) in 50 mL centrifuge tubes, preferably cell-trap tubes. The OCS medium is preferably prepared by reacting and

thus blocking the silanol groups of colloidal silica (approx. 10-20 nm diameter particles) with an alkyl trimethoxy silane reagent and has the structural formula:



5

Related colloidal silicas and methods for production thereof are disclosed in U.S. Patent 4,927,749 to Dorn. In a preferred embodiment, the OCS density gradient material is diluted to an appropriate specific density in a physiological salt solution supplemented with polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) such as PVP-10 available from Sigma Chemical Co. (St. Louis, MO).

10 The tubes are centrifuged at $1000 \times g$ for 35 minutes at room temperature. The centrifuge run is allowed to stop without braking and the peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC), present at the interface, are harvested.

PBMC are resuspended in D-PBS, centrifuged once at $650 \times g$ for 10 minutes and twice more at $200 \times g$ for 5 minutes to remove platelets. Platelet-depleted PBMC are resuspended in 60 mL of 15 D-PBS, layered on top of two columns of 15 mL of OCS (density 1.0610 gr/mL, 280 mOsm/kg H_2O) in a centrifuge tube and centrifuged at $650 \times g$ for 25 minutes at 4°C without braking. The resulting interface (primarily monocytes) and pellet cells (primarily lymphocytes) are harvested and washed with D-PBS by centrifugation at room temperature (once at $650 \times g$ for 10 minutes and twice thereafter at $200 \times g$ for 5 minutes).

20 In instances where the dendritic cells are used to generate peptide-specific cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTL) for purposes of elucidating their antigen presentation function, the interface fraction (mostly monocytes) is resuspended in cold pooled human AB serum (Irvine Scientific, Santa Ana, CA) to which an equal volume of 80% AB serum 20% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (Sigma Chemical Company, St. Louis, MO) is added dropwise. The resulting cell suspension is aliquoted 25 into cryovials and frozen in liquid nitrogen. The monocytes can be used for restimulation of CTL for expansion.

The pellet fraction is resuspended in 100 mL of AB Culture Medium, inoculated into two T-75 tissue culture flasks and cultured in a humidified 5% CO_2 incubator for 40 hours. Following the

incubation, the non adherent cells are harvested by moderate pipeting, washed and resuspended at a concentration of $2 - 5 \times 10^6$ cells/mL in AB Culture Medium. The cell suspension is overlaid over four columns of 4.0 mL OCS separation medium (density 1.0565 gr/ml, pH 7.4, 280 mOsm/kg H₂O), in AB Culture Medium and centrifuged at $650 \times g$ for 20 minutes at room temperature without
5 braking.

The interface and pellet cells are harvested and washed in AB Culture Medium (Basal RPMI-1640 medium, Gibco Laboratories, Grand Island, NY) by centrifugation once at $650 \times g$ for 10 minutes and twice thereafter at $200 \times g$ for 5 minutes each at room temperature. The yield and viability of both cell fractions is estimated by counting on a hemocytometer using trypan blue
10 exclusion.

The purity of dendritic cells in the interface fraction is quantified following analysis on a flow cytometer (FACS). Dendritic cells are characterized as negative for cell phenotype markers CD3 (T lymphocytes), CD14 (monocytes), CD16 (NK cells) and CD20 (B-cells) and positive for HLA class II expression using dual staining with HLA-DR (on the FITC channel) and a cocktail of CD3, CD14,
15 CD16, CD20 (on the PE channel). Dual staining with IgG2a on both the FITC and PE channels can be used as isotype control.

The morphology of the cells can also be evaluated using photomicroscopy. The DC enriched fraction contains large sized veiled cells with cytoplasmic processes extending from the cell surface, features characteristic of DC.

20

Example 6

Induction of Prostate Tumor Antigen-Specific CTL by Xenogeneic PAP

A T-cell *in vitro* priming and expansion system is used to establish the utility of xenogeneic PAP in the generation of HLA class I restricted CTL, a cellular immune response.

25 HLA-A2.1-positive PBMNC are isolated by standard methods on density gradient (FICOLL-HYPAQUE, Pharmacia Fine Chemicals, Piscataway, NJ) having a density of 1.077 gr/ml. The cells are primed with mouse PAP at a concentration of about 10 μ g/ml for two or five days. The cell preparation is then depleted of CD4+ T-cells by solid phase immunoadsorption and separated into low density and high density cells over a 1.068 gr/ml density gradient. The different fractions are then
30 cultured separately in AIM V media (Gibco, Gaithersburg, MD) supplemented with rIL-2 (20 U/ml). Autologous PBMNC that are cultured in Aim V media are used as antigen presenting cells (dendritic cells) for restimulation at weekly intervals. Lytic potential of the cells can be assessed in a standard 4-hour chromium release assay with the HLA-A2-1-transgenic prostate carcinoma cell line LnCaP.FGC as a target. This cell line is described in co-owned PCT application published as
35 WO97/24438, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

To investigate whether the observed cytotoxicity is a HLA-class I-restricted CD8+ cytolytic T-cell mediated phenomenon a blocking assay with the monomorphic HLA class I-specific monoclonal antibody W6/32 (ATCC) antibody can be performed. W6/32 blocks HLA class I mediated killing in standard assays, whilst control antibody CA141 is specific for HLA class II (DR) and will not interfere
5 with class I restricted killing.

While the invention has been described with reference to specific methods and embodiments, it will be appreciated that various modifications and changes may be made without departing from the invention.

10

SEQUENCE LISTING

5 (1) GENERAL INFORMATION

(i) APPLICANT: Dendreon Corporation

10 (ii) TITLE OF THE INVENTION: Composition and Method for
Producing an Immune Response Against Tumor-Related Antigens

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 11

15 (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
(A) ADDRESSEE: Dehlinger & Associates
(B) STREET: P.O. Box 60850
(C) CITY: Palo Alto
(D) STATE: CA
(E) COUNTRY: US
20 (F) ZIP: 94306

(v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
(A) MEDIUM TYPE: Diskette
(B) COMPUTER: IBM Compatible
25 (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: DOS
(D) SOFTWARE: FastSEQ for Windows Version 2.0

(vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: not yet assigned
30 (B) FILING DATE: 10-APR-1998
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/043,301
35 (B) FILING DATE: 11-APR-1997

(viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
(A) NAME: Stratford, Carol A
40 (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 34,444
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 7636-0013.41

(ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
(A) TELEPHONE: 650-324-0880
45 (B) TELEFAX: 650-324-0960

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

50 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1158 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

55 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA
(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: mouse prostatic acid phosphatase (mPAP)

60 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

ATGGGAGCCG TTCCTCTGCC CCTGAGCCCG ACAGCAAGCC TCAGCCTTGG CTTCTTGCTC 60
CTGCTTTCTC TCTGCCCTGA CCCAGGCCAA GCCAAGGAGT TGAAGTTTGT GACATTGGTG 120
65 TTTCGACATG GAGACCGAGG TCCCATCGAG ACCTTTCCTA CCGACCCCAT TACGGAATCC 180
TCGTGGCCAC AAGGATTTGG CCAACTCACC CAGTGGGGCA TGGAACAGCA CTACGAACTT 240
GGAAGTTATA TAAGGAAAAG ATACGGAAGA TTCTTGAACG ACACCTATAA GCATGATCAG 300

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      ATTTATATCC GGAGCACAGA TGTGGACAGG ACTTTGATGA GTGCTATGAC AAACCTTGCA 360
      GCCCTGTTTC CTCCAGAGGG GATCAGCATC TGGAAATCCTA GACTGCTCTG GCAGCCCATC 420
      CCAGTGCACA CCGTGTCTCT CTCTGAGGAT CGGTTGCTGT ACCTGCCTTT CAGAGACTGC 480
      CCTCGTTTTG AAGAACTCAA GAGTGAGACT TTAGAATCTG AGGAATTCTT GAAGAGGCTT 540
5     CATCCATATA AAAGCTTCCT GGACACCTTG TCGTCGCTGT CGGGATTCTG TGACCAGGAT 600
      CTTTTTGGAA TCTGGAGTAA AGTTTATGAC CCTTTATTCT GCGAGAGTGT TCACAATTTC 660
      ACCTTGCCCT CCTGGGCCAC CGAGGACGCC ATGATTAAGT TGAAAGAGCT ATCAGAATTA 720
      TCTCTGCTAT CACTTTATGG AATTACAAG CAGAAAGAGA AATCTCGACT CCAAGGGGGC 780
      GTCCTGGTCA ATGAAATCCT CAAGAATATG AAGCTTGCAA CTCAGCCACA GAAGTATAAA 840
10    AAGCTGGTCA TGTATTCCGC ACACGACACT ACCGTGAGTG GCCTGCAGAT GGCGCTAGAT 900
      GTTTATAATG GAGTTCTGCC TCCCTACGCT TCTTGCCACA TGATGGAATT GTACCATGAT 960
      AAGGGGGGGC ACTTTGTGGA GATGTACTAT CGGAATGAGA CCCAGAACGA GCCCTACCCA 1020
      CTCACGCTGC CAGGCTGCAC CCACAGCTGC CCTCTGGAGA AGTTTGCGGA GCTACTGGAC 1080
      CCGGTGATCC CBCAGGACTG GGCCACGGAG TGTATGGCCA CAAGCAGCCA CCAAGGTACT 1140
15    GTGGGCGCTT TGGGTTAG                                     1158

```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- 20 (A) LENGTH: 385 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- 25 (C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: mouse prostatic acid phosphatase (mPAP)
 coding sequence

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

```

30  Met Gly Ala Val  Pro Leu Pro Leu Ser  Pro Thr Ala Ser Leu Ser Leu
    1      5      10      15
    Gly Phe Leu Leu Leu Ser Leu Cys Leu Asp Pro Gly Gln Ala Lys
      20      25      30
35  Glu Leu Lys Phe Val Thr Leu Val Phe Arg His Gly Asp Arg Gly Pro
    35      40      45
    Ile Glu Thr Phe Pro Thr Asp Pro Ile Thr Glu Ser Ser Trp Pro Gln
    50      55      60
    Gly Phe Gly Gln Leu Thr Gln Trp Gly Met Glu Gln His Tyr Glu Leu
    65      70      75      80
40  Gly Ser Tyr Ile Arg Lys Arg Tyr Gly Arg Phe Leu Asn Asp Thr Tyr
    85      90      95
    Lys His Asp Gln Ile Tyr Ile Arg Ser Thr Asp Val Asp Arg Thr Leu
    100     105     110
45  Met Ser Ala Met Thr Asn Leu Ala Leu Phe Pro Pro Glu Gly Ile
    115     120     125
    Ser Ile Trp Asn Pro Arg Leu Leu Trp Gln Pro Ile Pro Val His Thr
    130     135     140
    Val Ser Leu Ser Glu Asp Arg Leu Leu Tyr Leu Pro Phe Arg Asp Cys
    145     150     155     160
50  Pro Arg Phe Glu Glu Lys Ser Glu Thr Leu Glu Ser Glu Glu Phe
    165     170     175
    Leu Lys Arg Leu His Pro Tyr Lys Ser Phe Leu Asp Thr Leu Ser Ser
    180     185     190
    Leu Ser Gly Phe Asp Asp Gln Asp Leu Phe Gly Ile Trp Ser Lys Val
    195     200     205
55  Tyr Asp Pro Leu Phe Cys Glu Ser Val His Asn Phe Thr Leu Pro Ser
    210     215     220
    Trp Ala Thr Glu Asp Ala Met Ile Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Ser Glu Leu
    225     230     235     240
60  Ser Leu Leu Ser Leu Tyr Gly Ile His Lys Gln Lys Glu Lys Ser Arg
    245     250     255
    Leu Gln Gly Gly Val Leu Val Asn Glu Ile Leu Lys Asn Met Lys Leu
    260     265     270
    Ala Thr Gln Pro Gln Lys Tyr Lys Leu Val Met Tyr Ser Ala His
    275     280     285
65  Asp Thr Thr Val Ser Gly Leu Gln Met Ala Leu Asp Val Tyr Asn Gly
    290     295     300

```

Val Leu Pro Pro Tyr Ala Ser Cys His Met Met Glu Leu Tyr His Asp
 305 310 315 320
 Lys Gly Gly His Phe Val Glu Met Tyr Tyr Arg Asn Glu Thr Gln Asn
 325 330 335
 5 Glu Pro Tyr Pro Leu Thr Leu Pro Gly Cys Thr His Ser Cys Pro Leu
 340 345 350
 Glu Lys Phe Ala Glu Leu Leu Asp Pro Val Ile Pro Gln Asp Trp Ala
 355 360 365
 10 Thr Glu Cys Met Ala Thr Ser Ser His Gln Gly Thr Val Gly Ala Leu
 370 375 380
 Gly
 385

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

15

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 22 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

20

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: gene specific primer for 5' end cloning of mPAP from mouse prostate (first round)

25

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

CATTCCGGTA GTACATCTCC AC

22

30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 22 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

35

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: gene specific primer for 5' end cloning of mPAP from mouse prostate (second round)

40

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

GTCACAAACT TCAACTCCTT GG

22

45

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

50

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: gene specific primer for 3' end cloning of mPAP from mouse prostate (first round)

55

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

60

GATGTACTAC CGGAATGAGA C

21

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single

65

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: gene specific primer for 3' end cloning
of mPAP from mouse prostate (second round)

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: Other
(B) LOCATION: 1, 10
(D) OTHER INFORMATION: \note: "where N is A, G, C, or T"

(A) NAME/KEY: Other
(B) LOCATION: 13
(D) OTHER INFORMATION: \note: "where R is A or G"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

NGTGATCCCN CARGACTGG

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 27 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: synthetic anchor primer one (AP1) for
mPAP cloning

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

CCATCCTAAT ACGACTCACT ATAGGGC

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 23 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: synthetic anchor primer two (AP2) for
mPAP cloning

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

ACTCACTATA GGGCTCGAGC GGC

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: forward primer (A31091) for mPAP
amplification

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

AAGTGCAGCA CCTCCTAAGG

20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

5 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

10

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: reverse primer (A31093) for mPAP amplification

15

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

GCACTTCCTG CTGAGCTCC

19

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

20

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 31 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

25

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:

- (C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: signal peptide of the deduced amino acid sequence for mPAP

30

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

Met	Gly	Ala	Val	Pro	Leu	Pro	Leu	Ser	Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu
1				5				10					15		
Gly	Phe	Leu	Leu	Leu	Leu	Ser	Leu	Cys	Leu	Asp	Pro	Gly	Gln	Ala	
35			20				25					30			

IT IS CLAIMED:

1. An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2.

5

2. The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide has at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2.

3. The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, having the amino sequence SEQ ID NO: 2, including conservative amino acid substitutions thereto, wherein said substitutions do not alter said sequence by more than about 10%.

10

4. The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2.

15

5. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence which encodes a polypeptide having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2.

6. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 5, comprising a sequence which encodes a polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 2.

20

7. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 5, comprising the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1.

8. An expression vector containing the polynucleotide of any of claims 5-7, and regulatory elements effective for expression of the polynucleotide in a suitable host.

25

9. The vector of claim 8, wherein said vector is a baculovirus vector suitable for use in an insect cell expression system.

30

10. A method of inducing an immune response against a tumor-associated antigen in a mammalian subject, comprising

administering to the subject an immunogenic dosage of a composition comprising a xenogeneic form of said tumor-related antigen from a different mammalian species.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said tumor-associated antigen is human prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP) and said xenogeneic antigen includes a non-human PAP.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said xenogeneic antigen is mouse PAP.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said mouse PAP is selected according to any of claims 1-4.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said xenogeneic antigen is produced in insect cells.

15. The method of any of claims 10-14, wherein said xenogeneic antigen composition includes a viral expression system which expresses said xenogeneic antigen.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said viral expression system is selected from the group consisting of vaccinia virus, adeno virus and adeno-like virus.

17. The method of any of claims 10-14, wherein said xenogeneic antigen composition includes a dendritic cell pulsed *in vitro* with said xenogeneic antigen.

18. An immunogenic composition for eliciting an immune response against a tumor-related antigen in a mammalian species, comprising
a recombinant virus that expresses a xenogeneic form of said tumor-related antigen.

19. The immunogenic composition of claim 18, wherein said xenogeneic form of said tumor-related antigen is a non-human prostatic acid phosphatase (PAP).

20. The immunogenic composition of claim 19, wherein said PAP is selected according to any of claims 1-4.

21. An immunogenic composition for eliciting a cellular immune response against a tumor-related antigen in a mammalian species, comprising
a dendritic cell that has been pulsed *in vitro* with a xenogeneic form of said tumor-related antigen.

22. The composition of claim 21, wherein said tumor-related antigen includes a non-human prostatic acid phosphatase.

23. The composition of claim 22, wherein said PAP is selected according to any of claims

5 1-4.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No
PCT/US 98/07232

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 C12N15/55 C12N9/16 C12N15/86 A61K38/46

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 C12N A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,0	FONG, L. ET AL. : "Immunogenicity of prostatic acid phosphatase in the Copenhagen rat." PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH, 88TH ANNUAL MEETING., vol. 38, March 1997, page 356-#2386 XP002068781 see the whole document ---	10,11, 15-19, 21,22
X	ZHAI Y ET AL: "CLONING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF THE GENES ENCODING THE MURINE HOMOLOGUES OF THE HUMAN MELANOMA ANTIGENS MART1 AND GP100" JOURNAL OF IMMUNOTHERAPY, vol. 20, no. 1, January 1997, pages 15-25, XP002036182 see the whole document ---	10,18
Y	---	11
-/--		

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 July 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

2 3. 07. 98

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Smalt, R

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte. tional application No.
PCT/US 98/07232

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claims 10-17 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat' Application No
PCT/US 98/07232

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	ROIKO, K. ET AL.: "Primary structure of rat secretory acid phosphatase and comparison to other acid phosphatases." GENE, vol. 89, 1990, pages 223-229, XP002068796 see the whole document ---	1-9,11
Y	DATABASE EMBL - EMBEST12 Entry MM3841, Acc.No. W08384, 27 April 1996 MARRA, M. ET AL.: "mb43a09.r1 Soares mouse p3NMF19.5 Mus musculus cDNA clone 332152 5' similar to gb:M24902 PROSTATIC ACID PHOSPHATASE PRECURSOR (HUMAN);." XP002068785 see the whole document ---	1-9
A	MAMULA, M.J. ET AL.: "Breaking T cell tolerance with foreign and self co-immunogens." JOURNAL OF IMMUNOLOGY, vol. 149, no. 3, 1 August 1992, pages 789-795, XP002068782 see the whole document ---	10-23
A	FANNON M R: "Gene expression in normal and disease states - identification of therapeutic targets" TRENDS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY, vol. 14, no. 8, August 1996, page 294-298 XP004035748 see box 1, p.297 ---	
P,X	FONG, L. ET AL.: "Induction of tissue-specific autoimmune prostatitis with prostatic acid phosphatase immunization." JOURNAL OF IMMUNOLOGY, vol. 159, no. 7, 1 October 1997, pages 3113-3117, XP002068783 see the whole document ---	10,15, 16,18
P,X	RUEGG, C.L. ET AL.: "Dendritic cell vaccine containing engineered prostate antigen fusion protein induces autoimmune prostatitis and inhibition of tumor cell growth." FASEB JOURNAL, vol. 12, no. 4, 17 March 1998, page A277 XP002068784 see abstract -----	10,17,21